

THE VVFC NEWS ALERT BACKPAGE AUGUST 2008

REFRIGERATORS

In 2008-2009, CDC is requiring all VFC enrolled providers to eliminate the use of dorm-style refrigerators as permanent storage units for VFC vaccine. CDC defines a dorm-style refrigerator as a small combination refrigerator/freezer unit that is outfitted with one external door, an evaporator plate (cooling coil) which is usually located inside an ice-maker compartment (freezer) within the refrigerator, and is void of a temperature alarm device. Dorm-style refrigerators place vaccines at a high risk of freezing. With rising VFC vaccine cost, it is essential for the integrity and continuation of the VFC program to ensure that VFC vaccine is stored in appropriate units which decrease the chance of vaccine loss due to inappropriate storage conditions. **ALL dorm-style refrigerators must be phased out by December 31, 2009.**

In addition, CDC requires a practice to have one certified thermometer per refrigerator or freezer compartment and requires that this thermometer be used for recording temperatures. If there is not a certified thermometer at the time of the VFC site visit in any or all of the vaccine storage units, then corrective action must be taken by the office to correct the situation.



NEW VACCINES!

As of August, VVFC will be offering 3 new vaccines: Kinrix, Pentacel and Rotarix. **Kinrix** is a combination vaccine indicated for the fifth DTaP and fourth dose IPV in 4 to 6 year olds whose previous DTaP vaccine doses have been with Infanrix and/or Pediarix. **Pentacel** is a combination vaccine that combines the DTaP, IPV, and Hib vaccines into a single shot. Pentacel can be given to infants and children between the ages of six weeks and four years. Pentacel is usually given as a four dose series, with the primary doses at two, four, and six months, and a booster at 15 to 18 months. **NOTE: Please continue to order one month's supply of Hib-containing supply vaccine on a monthly basis.** Rotarix will offer protection against the most commonly circulating rotavirus types in the U.S. and allow infants to complete the vaccination series by four months of age. Rotarix is indicated for the prevention of rotavirus gastroenteritis caused by G1 and non-G1 types (G3, G4, and G9) when administered as a two-dose series. **NOTE:** Adacel is now available in single dose syringes. The Order Form can be found at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/index.htm>



VACCINE RETURNS

Returning expired/wasted vaccines is a simple process if you keep an empty McKesson box. McKesson's boxes have a return label affixed to the inside flap. Reverse the flaps and the box is ready to be returned. Keep one box on-hand to return vaccine for excise tax credit. Return any additional empty boxes to McKesson, as the boxes are expensive and can be re-used.

VVFC AWARDS

Gold Stars awarded June - July 2008.

Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Carilion Pediatric Clinic, Roanoke
Carilion Roanoke Community Hospital,
Roanoke

Childrens Medical Center, Ltd., Martinsville
Familycare in the Plains, The Plains
Loudoun Community Health Center, Landsdowne
Marion Pediatric Associates, P.C., Marion
Metropolitan Pediatrics, Arlington
Mountainview Pediatrics, Marion
Practice of Win, M.D., Falls Church
Staunton River Family Physicians, Hurt
Vedha, M.D., P.C., Norton

Exceptional Immunization Rates

Advanced Pediatrics, Vienna
Capital Area Pediatrics, Vienna
Carilion Family Medicine, Wytheville
Children First, Inc., Dumfries
Culpeper Pediatric Services, Culpeper
Piedmont Pediatrics, Inc., Danville
Pine Grove Pediatrics, Manassas
Practice of Balsamo, Arnoldson, Rees, and Garner,
M.D., Burke
Practice of Childress, M.D.,
Fredericksburg
Practice of Hien V. Ho, M.D., Falls
Church
Prince William Pediatric and Adolescent,
Woodbridge
Sacoto Pediatrics, P.C., Arlington
The Pediatric Group, Woodbridge
Wythe Medical Associates, P.C., Wytheville
(Childhood immunization rates exceed 92%
and adolescent rates exceed 90% using
CoCASA software)

